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University of San Diego Received Grant from Jewish Chautauqua Society

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NEWS RELEASE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



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UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO RECEIVES GRANT FROM JEWISH CHAUTAUQUA SOCIETY

The University of San Diego's Religious Studies Department has received a grant from the Jewish Chautauqua Society for 1984-1985, according to an announcement by Rev. Ronald Pachence, department chairman.

The grant represents a renewal of the Society's 1983-1984 support of USD's graduate program in Religious Education, which enabled the presence of Rabbi Michael P. Sternfield, Congregation Beth Israel, who is currently teaching a course in Judaica at the independent Catholic institution. Through Society support, Rabbi Sternfield will return in Spring 1985 to teach a graduate course in Ancient Hebrew Literature.

"I welcome Rabbi Sternfield's presence on campus," Pachence said. "His expertise in Judaica and his pastoral experience provide our religious education students with valuable resources for their work in the ministry. After all, more than one 'VIP' in our church was Jewish. The rabbi is helping us better appreciate our roots."

Sternfield, a San Diego resident since 1973, is the youngest rabbi in the U.S. to lead a congregation of over 1,000 families. In addition to his congregational duties, he serves as Jewish chaplain at the Veterans Administration Hospital, La Jolla, and is chaplain to the San Diego Police Department and the San Diego Navy League. A political science graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, he was ordained from the

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UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

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Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati. An ardent student of archaeology, he also studied at the Hebrew Union College School of Biblical Archaeology and the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

The Jewish Chautauqua Society was chartered in 1893 and has been the major national educational project of the Temple Brotherhoods since 1939. Its fundamental purpose is to serve as a bridge between the Jews and the various Christian communities through a variety of programs, including the financial support of lectureships.

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Feature story, photo possibilities:

Rabbi Sternfield's class in Judaica meets on Mondays at 4 p.m. through mid-May. Arrangements for visiting the class and/or for interviewing Rabbi Sternfield and Father Pachence may be made by contacting Rev. Ronald Pachence, USD, 619/291-6480, extension 4402.

4/2/84